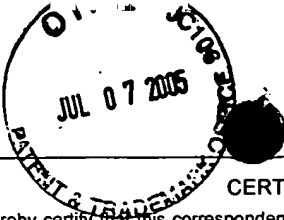


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date:

Date: July 1, 2005 Name: Tadashi Horie Reg. No. 40,437 Signature:

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Toshio MIKIYA
Takuya NISHIO
Kohji MATSUMOTO

Appln. No.: 10/520,206

Filed: December 28, 2004

For: FEMALE COUPLING MEMBER
OF A PIPE COUPLING

Attorney Docket No: 10210/25

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Art Unit: To Be Assigned

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

Attached is/are:

- ☒ 5 Pages of Preliminary Amendment, 2 Sheets of Drawings (Fig.4, 5, and 15), Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449, 3 Cited References (A2-4)
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard

Fee calculation:

- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ Small Entity.
- ☐ An extension fee in an amount of \$_____ for a _____-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).
- ☐ A petition or processing fee in an amount of \$_____ under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(_____).
- ☐ An additional filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

					Small Entity			Not a Small Entity	
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Add'l Fee	or	Rate	Add'l Fee
Total		Minus			x \$25=			x \$50=	
Indep.		Minus			x 100=			x \$200=	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+\$180=			+\$360=	
					Total	\$		Total	\$

Fee payment:

- ☐ A check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 in the amount of \$_____. A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.
- ☐ Payment by credit card in the amount of \$_____ (Form PTO-2038 is attached).
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this paper (including any extension fee required to ensure that this paper is timely filed), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Respectfully submitted,

Tadashi Horie (Reg. No. 40,437)

July 1, 2005
Date



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope, with sufficient postage, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

July 1, 2005

Date of Deposit

Tadashi Horie Reg. No. 40,437

Name of Applicant, Assignee or
Registered Representative

Signature

July 1, 2005

Date of Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Toshio MIKIYA
Takuya NISHIO
Kohji MATSUMOTO

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Filed: December 28, 2004

For: FEMALE COUPLING MEMBER
OF A PIPE COUPLING

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Art Unit: To Be Assigned

Attorney Docket No: 10210/25

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and more particularly in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), Applicants hereby cite the following references:

U.S. DOCUMENT NUMBER Number-Kind Code (if known)	DATE	NAME
6,089,539	07/18/2000	Kouda

FOREIGN DOCUMENT NUMBER Number-Kind Code (if known)	DATE	COUNTRY
WO 89/11059 A1	11/16/1989	WIPO
H08-082395 A	03/26/1996	Japan
H08-170779 A	07/02/1996	Japan

Applicants are enclosing Form PTO-1449 (one sheet), along with a copy of each listed reference for which a copy is required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2). References A3 and A4 are in Japanese. Applicants are submitting an English abstract thereof. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's consideration of the above references and entry thereof into the record of this application.

By submitting this Statement, Applicants are attempting to fully comply with the duty of candor and good faith mandated by 37 C.F.R. §1.56. As such, this Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any of the enclosed references, or other information referred to therein, constitutes "prior art" or is otherwise "material to patentability," as that phrase is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a).

Applicants have calculated no fee to be due in connection with the filing of this Statement. However, the Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency associated with the filing of this Statement to a deposit account, as authorized in the Transmittal accompanying this Statement.

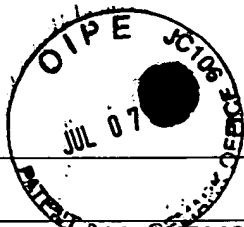
Respectfully submitted,

July 1, 2005

Date



Tadashi Horie (Reg. No. 40,437)



FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. 10/520,206	CASE NO. 10210/25
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	FILING DATE December 28, 2004	GROUP ART UNIT To Be Assigned
(use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT(S): Toshio MIKIYA et al.

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	6,089,539	07/18/2000	Kouda		
	A					
	A					
	A					
	A					
	A					
	A					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES OR NO
	A2	WO 89/11059 A1	11/16/1989	WIPO		
	A3	H08-082395 A	03/26/1996	Japan		Abstract
	A4	H08-170779 A	07/02/1996	Japan		Abstract
	A					
	A					

OTHER ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

(Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

EXAMINER INITIAL		
	A	
	A	
	A	
	A	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.